

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 ICA-20 AID-05 EB-08 AF-10 ARA-14

EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 ABF-01

OMB-01 OES-09 /117 W

-----024142 311912Z /50

R 301548Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5396

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS ROME 16071

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, WHO

SUBJECT: WHO BUDGET

RF: (A) ROME 15718, (B) GENEVA 11401 (C) GENEVA 13104,

(D) STATE 210000

1. FODAG APPRECIATES PROMPT AND USEFUL GENEVA RESPONSE IN
REF C TO REF A.

2. FROM INFORMATION GIVEN IN REF C, WE DEDUCE THAT IN REACHING
AGREEMENT WITH MAHLER ON A 2 PER CENT PER ANNUM NET REAL
GROWTH LIMIT, THERE WAS (A) NO AGREED SUBTRACTION FROM 1978
OR 1979 BUDGETS OF NON-RECURRING COSTS TO ESTABLISH A BASE
BELOW DLS 354,330,000; (B) NO AGREEMENT ON HOW 2 PER CENT
WOULD BE APPLIED. CONSEQUENTLY FURTH HAS FELT AT LIBERTY TO
APPLY 4 PER CENT TO TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET.

3. PARA 4 OF REF C DOES NOT MAKE CLEAR WHETHER WHO'S
1979 BUDGET FIRUE OF DLS 182,730,000 WILL BE REVISED UPWARDS
BECAUSE OF DECLINE OF DOLLAR; HOWEVER, IMPLICATION IS THAT IT
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WOULD BE SO REVISED TO EXTENT OF AT LEAST 30 PER CENT OF DOLLAR'S
DECLINE VIS-A-VIS SWISS FRANC. IF SO, WE WOULD ASSUME THAT
FURTH'S 1978 AND 1979 BASE WILL EXCEED DLS 354,330,000. WE
MAY WELL HAVE SAME PHENOMENON HERE IF FAO RECALCULATES DOLLAR
COSTS OF AGREED 1978-79 PROGRAM IN TERMS PRESENT DOLLAR -
LIRE RELATIONSHIP.

4. WHILE WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT FURTH HAS NOT SHARED HIS CALCULATIONS WITH FAO, WE MUST ASSUME THAT FAO WILL COMPARE NOTES AS SOON AS ROME GENEVA GROUP TAKES A POSITION WITH DG ON 1980-81 BUDGET, IF IT HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO. WHEN THIS HAPPENS, US REP EFFORTS HERE TO DERIVE A BASE BY SUBTRACTING NON-RECURRING COSTS WILL APPEAR TO BE A HARDER LINE TOWARDS FAO THAN WE TAKE TOWARDS WHO. LIKEWISE, ANY EFFORT TO ILLUSTRATE THAT AN EVENTUAL 2 0/0 PER ANNUM NET REAL GROWTH IS NOT EQUIVALENT TO 4 0/0 PER BIENNIUM WOULD APPEAR IN SOME LIGHT.

5. FODAG BELIEVES THAT BOTH THESE EFFORTS SHOULD, NEVERTHELESS, BE MADE IN COURSE OF TRYING TO REACH A GGR POSITION WHICH MEETS MAJORITY'S DESIRE TO REQUIRE PERSUASIVE FAO JUSTIFICATIONS FOR INCREASES AND IS COMPATIBLE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN REF D. WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER, THAT INFORMATION PROVIDED REF C STRONGLY REINFORCE OUR VIEW THAT GGR POSITION OF THIS KIND WILL BE VIEWED AS CONFRONTATIONAL AND DISCRIMINATORY BY DG AND THAT WE SHOULD HAVE FLEXIBILITY IN PROCEEDING WITH IT. HOLMES

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NNN

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